

HA-1408

c. 1870

Golden House  
48 E. Gordon Street  
Bel Air  
private

This much altered Victorian house was built in 1870 by Edward Golden. It was probably a simple three bay house, possibly with a front gable, certainly with a plain gable roof. Bel Air did not build hip-roofed houses in the Victorian period. The first round of alterations were done by Dr. P. Bird Hopkins after 1924. He probably added the hip roof. He certainly enclosed the west half of the porch for a waiting room for his patients, and, since he was using the dining room for his consulting room, he added a new dining room and kitchen to the rear. The complete enclosure of the porch and the single story addition around the west side and back date to the present ownership. The house is now used as law offices.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Golden House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

48 E. Gordon

1st

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Bel Air

VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

Maryland

Harford

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER: law office**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Cypert O. Whitfill

Telephone #: 838-8664

STREET &amp; NUMBER

48 E. Gordon

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21014

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

Liber #: 1018

Folio #: 53

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

HA-1408

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED	1924, 1979	

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**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

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This two story, three bay, aluminum sided house is at 48 E. Gordon Street in the Town of Bel Air, Harford County, Maryland. The house has a hipped roof and is surrounded on three sides by a single story, oddly hipped roofed addition which includes the old front porch. The house was originally a three bay, gable roofed house, two rooms up and down with a kitchen in a single story shed addition. The original windows were 6/6 double hung sash. The front (south) ones still have their shutters. The windows to the addition are 1/1. The entrance is in the second west bay of the four bay enclosed porch. It has a 9 pane over panel door. There is a similar door on the west side which gives access to the new back hall and the two new offices in the rear (north) part of the addition.

The interior has a center hall plan. On either side of the hall in the enclosed porch are two offices. In the old portion of the house the old hall has a closed string, dog-leg staircase with square balusters and a square newel post with a tiny dentil band under the top molding. To the east of the hall is the former living room; to the west is the former dining room (later Dr. Hopkins's consulting room). The hall terminates in Dr. Hopkins dining room, now the law library. To the west of this room is the conference room (in the 1979 addition). To the east is the kitchen which is also used as a file room. Behind the kitchen is a storage room in the addition. Behind the law library is a transverse hall with two new offices opening off it to the north.

The second story has four rooms (the one in the northwest corner an enclosed porch) and bath.

All the woodwork is plain. There are no fireplaces, the house being built for stoves.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1870

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This small house, now almost surrounded by a combination of enclosed front porch and a single story L-shaped addition, was once, like several of the houses on the north side of E. Gordon, just two rooms up and down with a shed addition. It probably also had a gable roof. The hip roof is not common in Bel Air.

The house, which appears on the 1878 map, was built by Edward Golden, probably in 1870, on land he sub-leased from John Bateman in that year (24/161). In 1885 he bought the fee from William Galloway (52/251). In 1891 he conveyed the property to his wife Joanna; he retained a life estate. In 1909 Mrs. Golden conveyed the property to her son Daniel; he sold it to Dr. P. Bird Hopkins in 1924. This small house, then, remained in the Golden family for 54 years - nearly half its life.

Dr. Hopkins, who was not connected to the J.T.C. Hopkins family, was responsible for the first round of alterations. He added the dining room (now the law library) and kitchen, enclosed the west half of the front porch for a waiting room and turned the old dining room into his consulting room. The closed string staircase is more suited to the 1924 date, so it seems he altered that, too. The hipped roof dates from this remodeling.

After the death of Dr. Hopkins and later of Mrs. Hopkins, the heirs sold the property to a firm of lawyers - T. Carroll Brown, Laurence S. Lanahan, Jr., and Cypert O. Whitfill - who rented the property. In 1976 Mr. Whitfill left the partnership, bought the other partners out (1018/53), and moved his offices into the house. In January 1979 he enclosed the east end of the front porch and added the wrap around addition, giving the firm a conference - settlement room and two offices which they rent out at the moment. The aluminum siding was put on at that time.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

1878 Map

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This property occupies parcel #547 in the Town of Bel Air.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

M. Larew, Architectural Historian

20 November 1979

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Town of Bel Air

838-8700

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

39 Hickory Avenue

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Bel Air

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

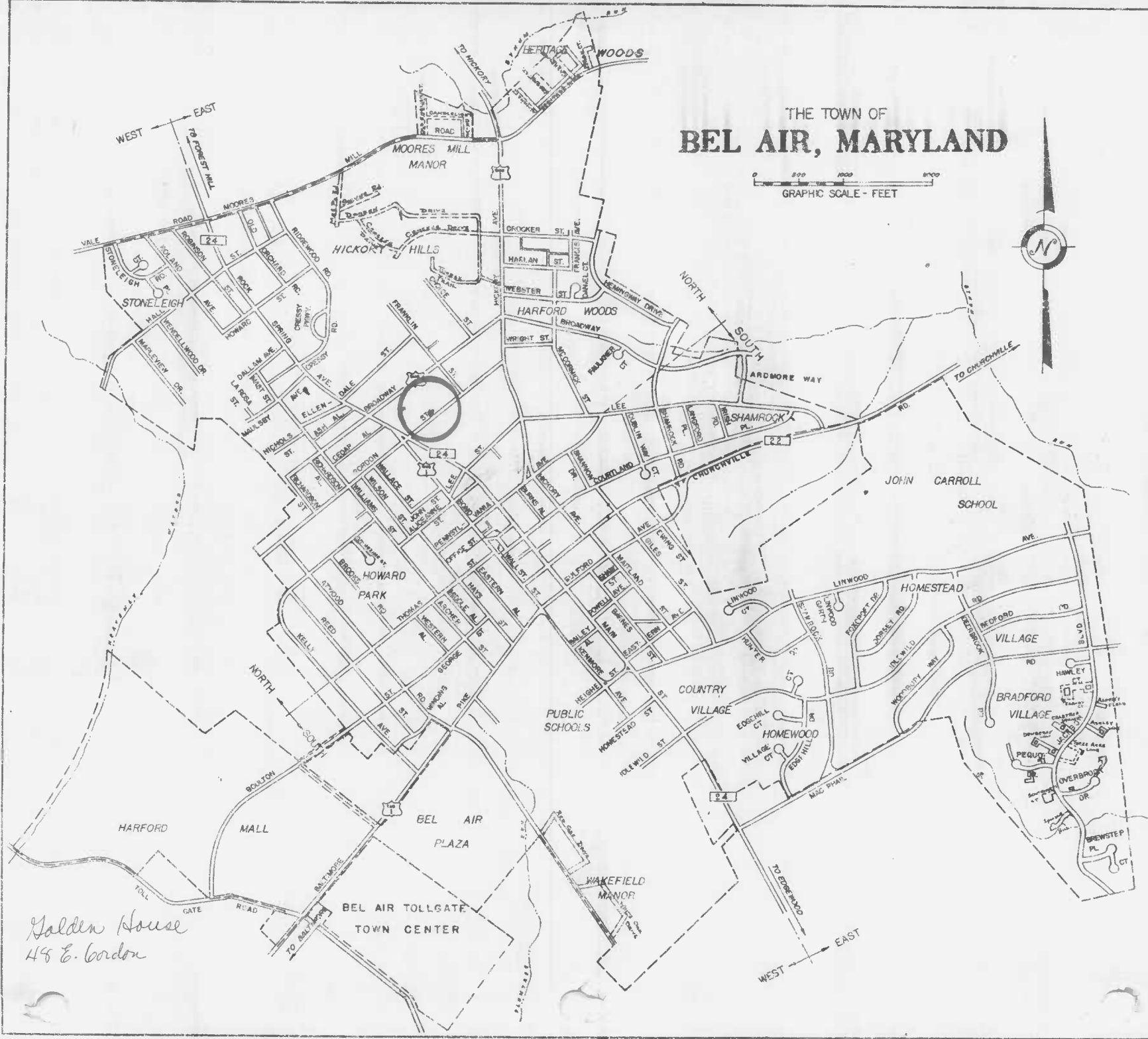
RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

TITLE: 48 E. GORDON

1018/53	4 December 1976 T. Carroll Brown & Laurence S. Lanahan, Jr. to Cypert O. Whitfill 2/3 interest
952/421	18 June 1974 Thomas R. Coale & Carol to T. Carroll Brown, Laurence S. Lanahan, Jr., and Cypert O. Whitfill
870/442	21 April 1971 James H. Hopkins, et. al. to Thomas R. Coale & Carol property of Caroline H. Hopkins deceased (will 30/238)
191/159	3 December 1924 Daniel J. Golden to P. Bird Hopkins & Caroline 90 Ft. in Gordon
127/212	24 August 1909 Joanna M. Golden to Daniel J. Golden (son)
72/11	17 July 1891 Edward Golden to Joanna M. Golden, wife retains a life estate 1. the lease from Alfred W. Bateman's administrator, John Bateman, 1870, 24/161 2. the fee from William Galloway, 1885, 52/251

# THE TOWN OF BEL AIR, MARYLAND

0 200 400 600  
GRAPHIC SCALE - FEET



HA-1408  
Golden House  
45 E. Gordon





LA-1408

Golden House, 48 E. Gordon, Bel Air  
w + Silver  
M. Larew, 1979



LA- 1408 Golden House, 418 E. Gordon, Bel Air  
D + e elev.  
M. Lacroix, 1979



